



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

FCDO Women and Girls Strategy

An introduction to FCDO's
new International Women
and Girls Strategy and
Campaign and how to engage
with it



Our vision

Putting women and girls, in all their diversity, at the heart of everything FCDO does, using all our diplomatic and development capabilities to improve lives, embolden and amplify women's organisations, and stand up to those intent on holding back women and girls.



Global context

- **Complex geopolitical landscape:** increasing authoritarianism and concerted attempts to roll back on rights, while UK seeks to build middle ground partnerships.
- **Multiple crises:** climate change, conflicts, humanitarian disasters, COVID, and economic shocks all affect women and girls disproportionately.
- **Rapid technological change:** innovation brings opportunities to close the gender gap and empower women and girls, but can also lead to digital exclusion, increasing cyber security threats and online violence and harassment.
- **Women and girls face heightened risks when also marginalised in other ways** - such as living in poverty, living with a disability, belonging to minority ethnic/racial groups or the LGBT+ community.
- **At the current rate, before we even consider the latest headwinds, it will take 132 years to close the gender gap**

FIVE PRINCIPLES



ONE: SPEAKING UP

Standing up and speaking out for women's and girls' rights and freedoms on the global stage and in our bilateral relationships and building networks to counter rollback.



TWO: CHAMPIONING WRO'S

Emboldening and amplifying the work and voices of diverse grassroots Women's Rights Organisations (WROs) and movements, championing their role as critical agents for change.



rights
freedom
potential

THREE: TARGETED INVESTMENT

Targeting investment towards the key life stages for women and girls to maximise effectiveness and secure the greatest life-long and inter-generational impact.

FOUR: SUPPORTING THOSE IMPACTED BY CRISES

Acting for and with women and girls impacted by crises and shocks, including conflict, global health, climate change, violence, food insecurity and malnutrition, and the resulting humanitarian crises.



FIVE: STRENGTHENING SYSTEMS

Strengthening the political, economic and social systems that play a critical role in protecting and empowering women and girls and applying innovative financing and technology.



THREE E'S



EDUCATING GIRLS

We stand up for the right of every girl to receive 12 years of quality education. Education is a human right, a gateway to other rights, and one of the most effective and lasting investments governments can make.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND CHAMPION THEIR HEALTH AND RIGHTS

We will support efforts to enable women and girls to take control of their own lives and contribute to society, politics, and economies on an equal basis to others.

ENDING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

We are investing in a global evidence base on what works to prevent GBV at scale as a global public good, prioritising the most marginalised women and girls and those in conflict and crisis.

THREE GOALS



DRIVE THE CONVERSATION

FCDO will stand up for the rights of women and girls, amplifying their voice and role as agents of change.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Women and girls will be at the centre of FCDO's operations, and investment, meaningfully contributing to the improvement of the lives of women and girls, in all their diversity, around the world.

LEAD THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

FCDO will build capability and develop, use and share evidence and research on what works to shape our own and others' investments and approaches.





#RightsFreedomPotential - campaign

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& Development Office



Ministers' voice and action

Events in international calendar

UK generated events – Wilton
Park Series

Official-led strategic
engagement on rollback

Accounting for delivery under
the 3Es

Stepping up activity 'at Post'



Thank you
Questions?

